



**Third Africa Regional Meeting on Development Effectiveness
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28- 30 September 2011**

***Towards a Collaborative Post 4th HLF Agenda
“Partnering and Inspiring Change for Development Effectiveness”***

Aide Mémoire

Event: The Third Africa Regional Meeting on Development Effectiveness (ARM-DE) will take place from 28-30 September 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia under the auspices of the African Union (AU). The Meeting will be co-organized by the AU Commission and the NEPAD Agency, in partnership with UNDP and UNECA¹, with the leadership of African Governments.

1. Background

For the first time, Africa will be presenting a Common Position and Consensus on Development Effectiveness based on its own context, needs and priorities, at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan scheduled for 29 November to 1 December 2011.

As part of the Continent’s preparatory process, the Third Africa Regional Meeting on Development Effectiveness (ARM-DE) aims to validate the African Consensus and Position Paper and consolidate the African position and voice for the HLF-4 and beyond.

The overarching objective of the Regional Meeting is thereby to enable Africa: (i) to engage in the international debate with a well-articulated common vision of its needs and aspirations, and an agenda of how to translate its goals into principles to govern development cooperation; (ii) to further engage partners on Africa’s vision on development effectiveness and the necessary transformation of the current global aid architecture that is required to support this vision, in and after Busan.

The First and Second Regional Consultative Meetings were co-organised by the African Union Commission (AUC), the NEPAD Agency with the Government of South Africa and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Pretoria and Tunis, in March and November 2010 respectively.

Based on the ‘Pretoria Outcomes’ and the ‘Tunis Consensus on Development Effectiveness’, the core message that emerged is that Aid should support Africa towards sustainability. In practice, this

¹ UNDP and UNECA are part of the Regional core team in preparation for Busan HLF4, notably providing substantial *technical and financial* resources from 2010 to date, beginning with support to the establishment of APDev and its launch. Significantly, the Government of Germany through GIZ has provided constant valuable support in setting up the APDev and shaping of the African Position incl. SSC and CD evidence building process.

means that investments through Aid should guarantee and achieve capacity development² outcomes, as standard. Capacity Development should therefore be a core measure in assessing the impact and results of Aid in Africa.

2. Structure of the Third Regional Meeting

The Third Africa Regional Meeting will combine plenary and panel sessions with Task Team and Stakeholder roundtables. A Ministerial Sub-committee is expected to endorse the African Position Paper. A draft annotated agenda will be shared in advance for multi-stakeholder input.

The six roundtables listed below will form the backbone of the Third ARM-DE. Each will deal with a central element of the African agenda for Development Effectiveness and address issues covered by the African Consensus and Position Paper towards validation for Busan. Each roundtable will be co-chaired by a representative from an African country and a regional institution.

Roundtable 1: The Unfinished Aid Effectiveness Agenda

This roundtable will look into the need to address the unfinished aid effectiveness agenda in the broader context of development effectiveness. Key issues include: Delivering on the commitments on aid quantity and quality made in Monterrey, Gleneagles, Paris and Accra; Reducing aid dependency through greater mobilization and better utilization of Africa's resources.

Roundtable 2: Capacity for Development Effectiveness

This roundtable will discuss effective and accountable States capable of delivering development results in response to the Continent's renewal agenda. Key issues include: Strengthening country systems; Strengthening domestic accountability through increased fiscal transparency; Consolidating the Parliament as a democratic institution and promoting citizen empowerment.

Roundtable 3: Regional Dimensions of Development Effectiveness

This roundtable will examine the need to develop regional markets in order to build economies of scale and greater competitiveness in Africa. Key issues include: Implementing the provisions of the Abuja Treaty and the Lagos Plan of Action; Strengthening the capacity of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to formulate and implement clear and coherent plans and initiatives; Incorporating the regional dimension of development in the aid effectiveness agenda.

Roundtable 4: Cross-Continental Partnerships and the New Aid Architecture

This roundtable will consider the need for a competitive market in development assistance structured around value and results-driven partners. Key issues include: Strengthening African capacity to manage its partnerships in order to assess the true costs and benefits of offers of assistance; Ensuring the inclusion of social and environmental safeguards supportive of Africa's development effectiveness agenda; Promoting internationally shared principles for development effectiveness.

Roundtable 5: Beyond Aid – Mobilising Africa's resources for development

Participants will primarily deliberate on the need to ensure that Africa is able to sustainably fund its development from a variety of sources. Key issues for discussion in this roundtable include: Strengthening the capacity of Africa's public and private sector for domestic resource mobilization and utilization; Re-orienting aid into Africa's real economy and towards areas that stimulate private

² The AU-NEPAD Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) identifies key Capacity Development (CD) priorities for Africa and articulates CD as: "A process of enabling individuals, groups, organizations, institutions, and societies to sustainably define, articulate, engage, and actualize their vision or developmental goals building on their own resources."

sector growth; Strengthening domestic capital markets by creating more investment opportunities in Africa to reduce capital flight; Taping into Africa's entrepreneurial spirit through the provision of micro-credit; Identifying innovative sources of financing.

Roundtable 6: The Post-Busan Agenda

To successfully operate the paradigm shift from Aid Effectiveness to Development Effectiveness, this roundtable will examine key issues including: Mobilising and consolidating regional mechanisms and processes for coordination and knowledge sharing; Establishing and using common diagnostic tools to increase mutual accountability. The roundtable discussions will feed into Africa's agenda for Busan.

Overall, a summary document will be produced capturing the key outcomes of the 3rd ARM-DE in Addis Ababa.

3. Participation

Approximately 150-200 participants, representing African governments and Parliaments, civil society, private sector, academia, regional and international institutions, youth and women groups etc are expected at this high level regional meeting. The configuration of the participation will reflect the following:

Country/Parliaments:	54 Member States of the African Union and Parliaments
Regional Institutions	AU, NEPAD Agency, ACBF, APRM, AfDB, DBSA, RECs - SADC, EAC, COMESA, ECCAS, ECOWAS, AMU, IGAD, CEN-SAD
Multilateral Agencies	UNECA, UNDP, UNEP, WB, UNDESA, OECD, UNAIDS, UN-OSAA, OECD/DAC, etc
Bilateral Organizations	GIZ, DFID, USAID, Flemish, SIDA, CIDA, Swiss, etc
CSOs/Networks/Private Sector	AGI, CIVICUS, Southern Africa Trust, CD Alliance Oxfam, ActionAid, Africa Monitor, African Features Studies, Africa Research and Resource Foundation, LenCD, ICIPE, CCP-AU, Reality of Aid; BetterAid-Africa Chapter, ABR, NBG/NBF, TT-SSC
Academia	Case Study Researchers and Authors, University forums

4. Language

The ARM-DE will be conducted in English and French. All official documentation will be in both languages.

5. Duration and Venue

The ARM-DE will take place over a course of three (3) days, from 28 to 30 September 2011 at the United Nations Conference Centre. Pre-events are scheduled for 26-27 September 2011.

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